

DOCKET NO. 2003.08.009.WT0
U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/763,409
PATENT

IN THE DRAWINGS

Please replace Figure 4 with the Replacement Sheet submitted concurrently herewith.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were originally filed in the present application.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-20 were rejected in the July 9, 2007 Office Action.

No claims have been allowed.

Claim 15 is amended herein.

Claims 1-20 remain in the present application.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

In Section 1 of the July 9, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Specification citing an informality in the Specification and in the Figure 4. Applicants have amended the Specification and Figure 4 to correct the informalities as shown herein. The amendments to the Specification and to Figure 4 are fully supported by the originally filed application and thus do not add new matter.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the amendments to the Specification and Figure 4 be entered and the objection be withdrawn.

In Sections 3 and 4 of the July 9, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-5 and 11-15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,151,769 to *Stanforth, et al.* (the "Stanforth reference"). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the Examiner's arguments in support of the rejection.

Claim 1 of the present application currently requires:

For use in a mobile ad hoc network formed by a plurality of mobile ad hoc network (MANET) nodes, a first MANET node capable of *aggregating route cost information* associated with a first route from a source MANET node to a destination MANET node, said first MANET node comprising:

a radio frequency (RF) transceiver capable of wirelessly communicating with other ones of said plurality of MANET nodes; and

a controller capable of receiving incoming data packets from said RF transceiver and sending outgoing data packets to said RF transceiver, *wherein said controller receives a Route Request (RREQ) message generated by said source MANET node and retrieves initial route cost information from said RREQ message*, said initial route cost information comprising at least one of:

at least one radio frequency (RF) link cost parameter of at least one preceding RF link between said first MANET node and said source MANET node in said first route; and

at least one node cost parameter of at least one preceding MANET node between said first MANET node and said source MANET node in said first route. (emphasis added).

Notably, Claim 1 requires a MANET node controller that receives a RREQ message generated by said source MANET node and *retrieves initial route cost information from said RREQ message*.

The Stanforth reference, on the other hand, teaches that communication between terminals or nodes is set up by information exchanged on the separate reservation channel, which information includes all of the *call set-up information* through messages *such as a Request-to-Send (RTS) message*. Stanford reference, column 1, lines 37-47. Although the Examiner cites to column 3, lines 42-64 for support, there is, however, no teaching or disclosure of a MANET node controller that receives a RREQ message generated by said source MANET node and *retrieves initial route cost information from said RREQ message*, as required by Claim 1 and its dependents, Claims 2-5.

In fact, at the very most, the cited portion of the Stanford reference merely teaches that each radio terminal of the ad-hoc radio system initially determines a routing table which typically includes a plurality of different routing paths. *Id.* at column 3, lines 45-54. The Stanford reference, however,

fails to teach or disclose how the radio terminal receives such information let alone teach or disclose that the radio terminal receives such information via a *RREQ message*, as required by Claim 1 and its dependents, Claims 2-5. In fact, it appears that the Stanford reference ultimately discloses that its system updates routing table information using *time-frame messaging*. *Id.* at column 8, lines 14-20; column 8, lines 60-63

Similar arguments exist from Claim 11 and its dependents, Claims 12-15. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the §102 rejection with respect to Claims 1-5 and 11-15.

In Sections 5 and 6 of the July 9, 2007 Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 6-10 and 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Stanforth reference in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0161268 to *Larsson, et al.* (the “Larsson reference”). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse the Examiner’s arguments in support of the rejection.

Claims 6-10 ultimately depend from allowable Claim 1 and are thus also allowable as shown above. Similarly, Claims 16-20 ultimately depend from allowable Claim 11 and are thus also allowable as shown above.

In addition, the Stanforth reference, either alone or in any combination with the Larsson reference, fails to teach or disclose a MANET node controller that receives a RREQ message generated by said source MANET node and *retrieves initial route cost information from said RREQ message*, as required by Claim 1 and ultimately by Claims 6-10. Similar arguments exist for Claims 16-20.

Moreover, there is no suggestion or motivation within the Stanforth reference or the Larsson reference to prompt one of ordinary skill to selectively combine discrete elements from each and then *seek out* still others as required by Claims 6-10 and 16-20.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the §103 rejection with respect to Claims 6-10 and 16-20.

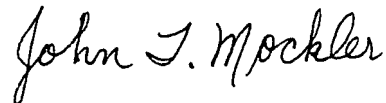
SUMMARY

For the reasons given above, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims and that this application be passed to issue. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of this application, the Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at *jmockler@munckbutrus.com*.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

Respectfully submitted,

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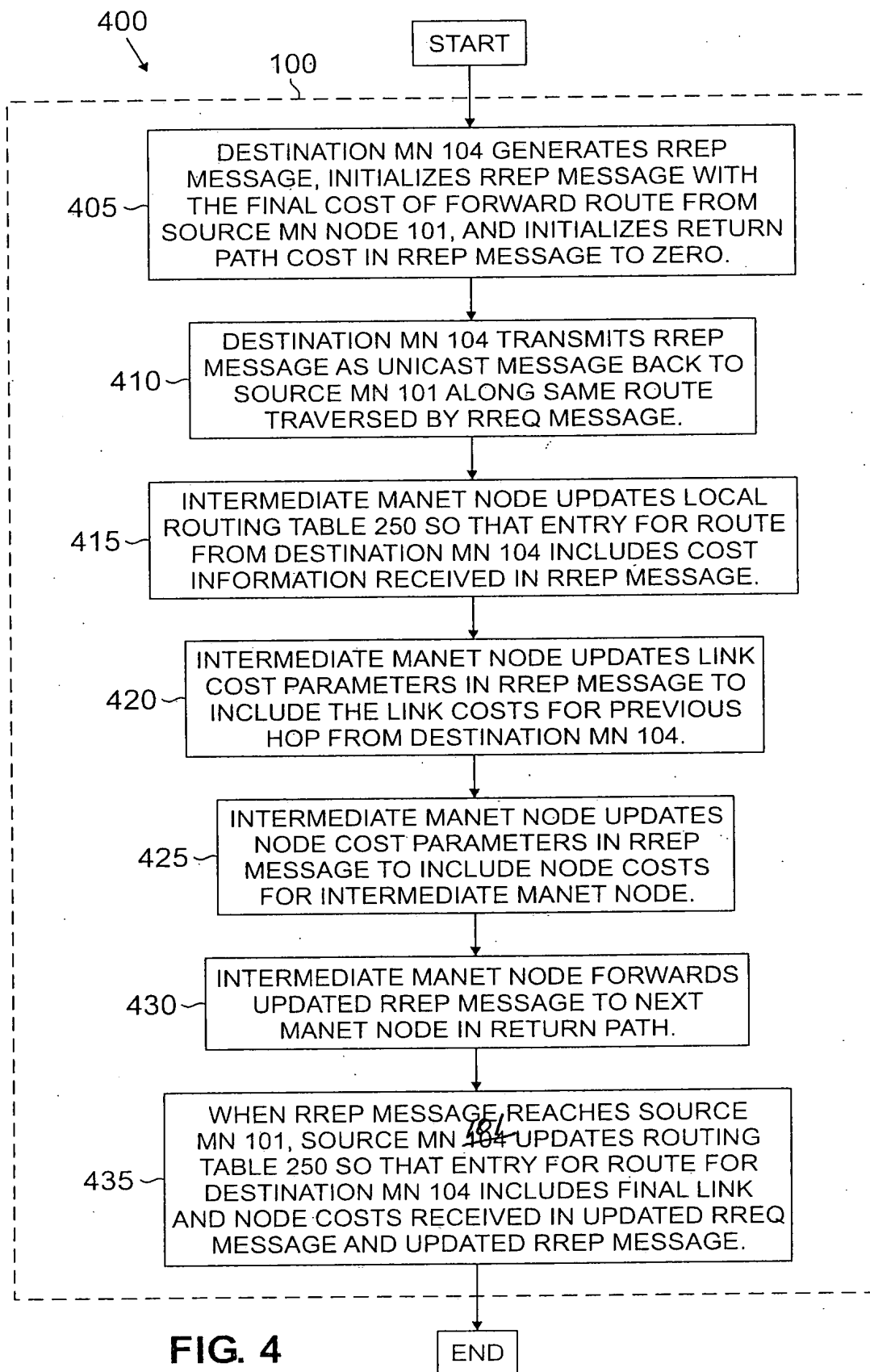


FIG. 4